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metrica, offered in exchange. Jos. McKay, 24 Liberty street, Troy, N. Y.

A variety of interesting objects from the Bahamas, mounted or unmounted, for exchange. C. C. Merriman, Rochester, N. Y.

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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— We learn from the parties in the field in the Yellowstone National Park, that the work of Prof. Hayden's United States Geological Survey of the Territories has progressed most favorably despite the unsettled nature of the country, owing to the Indian troubles. The general features of the park have been exhaustively surveyed, an enormous amount of material in the morainal deposits and especially the structure of the Wind River mountains.

Meanwhile the reports of the survey, and particularly the Geological map of Colorado lately issued by this Survey, are winning golden opinions in Europe. A gentleman writes us from Paris as follows: "The Hayden Survey is popular in both England and France. I repeatedly heard expressions of regret that there should be any disposition to hamper or oppose it in any way. Such opposition would be looked on here as springing, without doubt, from unworthy motives." An elaborate notice by Mr. Oldham, the late distinguished director of the Geological Survey of India, appears in the *Geological Magazine*, in which the highest praise is given to the work. That all Americans should take pride in this great work and others of the kind, is made apparent by the favorable notices which have appeared in European journals. In letters lately received at the office of the survey, Prof. Andrew C. Ramsay, the veteran director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, writes: "I have to-day received a copy of your Colorado Atlas, for which I am exceedingly obliged. I have all the maps, etc., spread out on one of the large drawing tables in the geological survey office, and have had a long look at them. The beauty of the engraving and coloring is most remarkable, and quite astonished me. I know nothing of the kind superior, or even equal to this work, especially when we consider the physical character of the country and the hardships that such a survey must entail. That so much has been done, and done in such a manner, speaks volumes for the energy and skill of you and all your men, and it is a credit to any government to have been the means of producing such a masterly piece of work."

Prof. Archibald Geikie, director of the Geological Survey of Scotland, writes: "Your magnificent Atlas of Colorado has just come. I have had time merely to look over the maps and sections in a cursory way. But I cannot delay to send you a few lines of the heartiest congratulation on the completion of this most splendid contribution to science, and to the opening up of the resources of your great country. I shall take an early opportunity of going quietly over the maps and of speaking publicly about them. The care and elaboration of the original field-work, and the beauty of the execution of the plates, combine to make this atlas a national work of which any government might justly be proud."

We sincerely hope that Congress will certainly not decrease next year the amount of the annual grant for a survey, which, without disparagement to any other, has been conducted in such a broad as well as prudent spirit as to win golden opinions from those best qualified to judge of the manner of conducting such a survey.

— Prof. Cope has purchased the collections of vertebrate fossils exhibited by the Argentine Confederation at the Exposition of Paris. The collection embraces those of three exhibitors, and is one of the most extensive which has ever left Buenos Ayres. It includes 75 to 100 species, which represent all the more important types of the Pampean formation. There are twelve species of *Glyptodon*, and nineteen nearly complete skeletons of various forms. The most beautiful of these is that of a *Machærodus* similar to the Brazilian species. Prof. Cope retains a series of duplicates, some of them entire skeletons, for sale.

— NOTICE. Having removed from Salem to *Providence, R. I.*, the editorial office of the AMERICAN NATURALIST will be at the latter address, where all exchanges, articles, letters, and specimens designed for the editors may be sent. A. S. PACKARD, JR.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

SAN FRANCISCO MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.—The regular meeting was held July 11th. Of the business routine the most interesting part was the announcement of several donations and purchases for the library and cabinet. Rev. Mr. Bleasdale generously completed the suite of Dr. Carpenter's slides, already numbering eleven, by an addition of three more—shell sections of *Unio occidens*, *Anomia ephippium* and *Terebratula ampulla*.

The California State Geological Society presented specimens of "diatomite," from Santa Barbara, a flinty mineral supposed to have been deposited from silica-impregnated waters passing out